Drinking habit among school kids

3216. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 60 per cent of school kids drink;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to dissuade kids from drinking habit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Various studies and reports indicate an increasing incidence of alcohol and drug abuse amongst certain vulnerable sections of the society which include students and youth. However, no specific study has been undertaken on school children.

(c) Under the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse, the Ministry is providing financial support to the Non-Government Organisations for awareness programmes in different settings including educational institutions, counselling treatment and rehabilitation services.

Reservation in services for OBCs

3217. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of reservation for the OBC persons in the services of the State Governments as in force now in different States;

(b) whether Government propose to amend the Constitution to enhance the highest limit of fifty per cent (50%) of reservation in respect of the States where this limit is a bar to provide the OBC persons with reservation benefit in the minimum;

(c) if so, by when the steps are likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) Details are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.